

Kenneth Combs Is Due at Home

PFC. Kenneth T. Combs, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Combs, Torrance, soon will be home on furlough from the Asiatic-Pacific theatre of operations, where he served 29 months with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Service men's stationery? Call Torrance 444 or 443.

Hospital Cases

Admitted to Torrance Memorial hospital during the past week were the following from this district:

- Margaret Cordero, 2123 Crenshaw blvd.
- Oscar E. Simmons, 1742 251st st., Lomita.
- Mrs. Vesta Sattler, 1606 Gramercy ave.
- John Thomas, 24406 Aliene st., Lomita.

Returning Veterans' Farming Guide Book Issued By County Supervisors

Publication of a guidebook for returning war veterans seeking a livelihood in farming, with a warning that extreme care must be exercised in the selection of such careers, has been announced.

Published by the County Board of Supervisors, the new booklet, titled "What the Veteran Should Know About Agriculture in Southern California," has been prepared as a special supplement to a series of publications on types of farming, locations, soils, water supplies, investment costs, returns and similar data which are available to all persons wanting advice on agricultural opportunities in this region.

George B. Hodgkin, chairman of the Los Angeles County Chamber of Commerce agricultural committee, said the new

booklet has been issued because "we have a responsibility to veterans who have lost contact with farming or other business affairs during the war, and because we are anxious to be of every possible aid in obtaining for them an accurate understanding of the hazards involved."

The chamber study warns returning veterans that they must give serious thought to their personal adaptability to farm life, and to the likes and dislikes of the families. Next, the veterans are told not to be misled by current high prices for farm products; that, on the average, farming is not a high-profit business, and that the postwar period will undoubtedly bring a sharp deflation both in prices for farm land and prices for farm commodities.

The chamber further warns that settling of veterans on government projects does not mean that the land is free. Projects developed by the U. S. Reclamation Bureau to date require settlers to repay costs of the work, such as the huge Grand Coulee development in the northwest and the Colorado river development in the southwest.

On the other hand, the chamber of commerce points out that end of the war will bring a great many retirements from farming, because emergency conditions have forced thousands of elderly persons into active agricultural pursuits, and the average age of farmers today is far above normal. This situation, the chamber says, means there will be many opportunities for veterans in farming ventures, provided they are given proper advice and information.



ON COMBAT DUTY . . . Coast Guardsman Daniel J. Wilkes, fireman first class, of 2917 Carson st., Torrance, Calif., Torrance, Calif., is stationed aboard a Coast Guard-manned invasion transport punching holes in the Japs' line of defenses along the road to Tokyo. Wilkes, whose battle station is aboard one of the ship's landing boats, formerly was stationed aboard a Coast Guard combat cutter on anti-submarine patrol. He is a graduate of Torrance high school and hopes to pursue the study of engineering after the war.

Dresser Deals Take Over Three More Companies

Acquisition of three new Southern California companies, expanding Dresser Industries, Inc., to 13 members, has been authorized by Dresser directors.

This was announced late Friday at Los Angeles by Arthur R. Weis, vice president of Pacific Pumps, Inc., Huntington Park, one of the Dresser Industries, and at New York by H. N. Malton, president of Dresser.

The companies to be acquired are the Day and Night Manufacturing Co. of Monrovia; the Payne Furnace and Supply Co., Inc., of Beverly Hills, and Kobe, Inc., Huntington Park. Another Southern California member of Dresser Industries is International Derrick and Equipment Co., Torrance.

The acquisition will be accomplished by an exchange of stock and will be effected about Feb. 1, 1945, if approved by stockholders of the three companies. Dresser stockholders recently authorized an increase in capital stock to 600,000 shares, a portion of which is unissued and will be used to consummate the agreement.

"Products of each of the companies will complement those of the present Dresser units," Malton said. "Day and Night manufactures a line of gas-fired hot water heaters and Payne produces steel furnaces and floor furnaces for the consumer durable goods field. These will supplement products of the Bry-

ant Heater Co., enabling distributors to offer services over a broader market.

"Kobe, Inc., is a producer of hydraulic deepwell oil pump systems, which will add similar diversification to equipment manufactured by Pacific Pumps, Inc., and International Derrick and Equipment Co."

Service men's stationery? Call Torrance 444 or 443.

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Krug Meets with Tire Factory Representatives

J. A. Krug, War Production Board Chief, met with officials of the four major tire factories Monday in an effort to find solutions to the critical tire shortages brought about by accelerated military demands.

J. M. Miller, U. S. Rubber Co. tire plant manager, speaking for the industry said that all the plants virtually had completed expansion programs which enables them to handle much greater rubber tonnage than they did previously. With the Los Angeles synthetic rubber project producing plenty of rubber, the solution awaits more workers to man the new machinery.

"At the moment 40% of the tire building machinery is idle because of the lack of workers," Miller explained.

Miller revealed that the industry had developed a new principle in rayon tire construction which provides stronger synthetic rubber truck tires and assures substantially greater tire production.

The new construction utilizes a 2200 denier rayon instead of the former 1100 denier type. With twice the number of filaments thus twisted together, the greater fabric strength enables the industry to make a stronger tire with fewer plies. By reducing the amount of rubber used, heat generation, which is a major cause of tire breakdown, is reduced materially. Rupture spread and blow-outs are also reduced to a minimum because of the stronger construction.

In addition the new type cord fabric paves the way to greater truck tire production, according to Miller, because fewer operations are involved, and materials and component parts are reduced.

"While the industry's expansion programs primarily are aimed at breaking production bottlenecks, the added capacity will be needed after the war when delayed consumer demands will keep factories going at top speed," Miller said.

"Men who come to work now, are assured of post-war jobs."

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